

CLAIMS

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3 1. A method, including steps of
4 delivering, to a user, digital content representing at least a portion of a
5 media stream, the digital content being locked against inspection or tampering by that
6 user;
7 separately delivering, to that user, a license including a content key capa-
8 ble of unlocking that digital content, the content key being locked against inspection or
9 tampering by devices other than a selected presentation device owned by that user;
10 wherein the selected presentation device is associated with a presentation
11 device key, a secure portion of the presentation device being capable of unlocking the
12 license using the presentation device key;
13 whereby that user is restricted to presentation of that media stream at the
14 selected presentation device.

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16 2. A method as in claim 1, including steps of
17 reading at least a portion of the digital content from physical media;
18 encrypting that portion read from physical media using a content key;
19 whereby the user is restricted to have a license for presentation of the
20 digital content read from physical media.

1 3. A method as in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the locked
2 digital content is delivered to the user using at least one of: (a) a communication link, or
3 (b) physical media from which the digital content can be read.
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5 4. A method as in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the locked
6 digital content is maintained by the user for possible delivery to more than one such
7 presentation device.
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9 5. A method as in claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the license is
10 delivered to the user using at least one of: (a) a communication link, or (b) physical me-
11 dia from which the digital content can be read.
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13 6. A method as in claim 1, wherein the digital content is locked using
14 a form of encryption and the content key is associated with decryption of that digital
15 content.
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17 7. A method as in claim 1, wherein the media stream includes at least
18 one of: animation or sound, still media, pictures or illustrations, a database, another
19 collection of information.
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1 8. A method as in claim 1, wherein the digital content includes at least
2 some information capable of inspection by the user other than for presentation of the
3 media stream.

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5 9. A method as in claim 8, wherein that information capable of in-
6 spection includes information about the media stream, including at least one of: (a) a ti-
7 tle, (b) a film clip, (c) a summary, (d) a set of information associated with the author,
8 actors, genre, or rating of the media stream.

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10 10. A method as in claim 8, wherein that information capable of in-
11 spection includes metadata about the media stream.

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13 11. A method as in claim 1, wherein the license imposes restrictions on
14 presentation of that media stream.

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16 12. A method as in claim 11, wherein the restrictions include at least
17 one of: (a) a first date or time at which presentation is allowed for the media stream, (b)
18 a last date or time at which presentation is allowed for the media stream, (c) a limited
19 number of presentations allowed for the media stream, (d) a limited physical region at
20 which presentation is allowed for the media stream, (e) a charge, cost, fee, or subscrip-
21 tion associated with allowing presentation of the media stream, (f) a type of presenta-

tion device, (g) an output format used by the presentation device, (h) a bit rate, sampling rate, or other measure of granularity or precision used by the presentation device.

13. A method as in claim 11, wherein the license is capable of being renewed or revoked.

14. A method as in claim 11, wherein the license includes an integrity code capable of revealing whether that license has been tampered with.

15. A method as in claim 1, wherein that secure portion of the presentation device includes elements relatively resistant to intrusion on any of their communication paths and not allowing the presentation device key, the content key, or the digital content to be inspected or tampered with.